



KILIMANJARO EXPEDITIONS

2018 TRIP NOTES





Kilimanjaro

5,895m / 19,340ft

Scheduled Expedition Notes

2018 Dates

- Trip 1:** January 7 - 19
- Trip 2:** January 21 - February 2
- Trip 3:** February 11 - 23
- Trip 4:** July 1 - 13
- Trip 5:** July 15 - 27
- Trip 6:** August 19 - 31
- Trip 7:** September 9 - 21
- Trip 8:** December 9 - 21
- Trip 9:** December 16 - 28

Private departures and 'full service' luxury trek options are also available.

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The highest point in Africa, Kilimanjaro is a romantic destination and perhaps one of the best-known mountains of the world. Immortalised by Ernest Hemingway in his book 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro', the peak to this day elicits emotions of travel and adventure. The Adventure Consultants expedition to Kilimanjaro captures some of that intrigue on this entrancing journey with a non-technical climb, expansive views across Africa and diverse flora and landscapes.



The summit of Kilimanjaro, or Uhuru as it is known, reaches 5,895m or 19,340ft. It is one of the Seven Summits – the highest peaks on each of the Earth's seven continents.

Kilimanjaro is also the highest free-standing mountain in the world and stands like an island surrounded by the hot and dry plains of Africa. It is a dormant volcano and lies 400km/250 miles south of the Equator, just inside Tanzania's border with Kenya. It amazes all with its widely contrasting vegetation;

from rainforests and moorlands to towering cliffs and glaciers.

We climb the mountain by the picturesque Machame Route which traverses several of the scenic micro-environments found at the different elevations on the mountain.

The climb of Kilimanjaro can be followed by a safari through the wonders of the Serengeti, Rift Valley and Ngorongoro Crater, where the variety of wildlife will completely captivate you.

The Route and How the Expedition Operates

Like most dormant volcanoes, the slopes of Kilimanjaro are mostly of reasonably low angle with occasional steeper sections, none of which are more famous than the Breach Wall - a towering cliff of snow and ice descending dramatically from the summit slopes.

Our ascent route is the Machame Route, which is incredibly varied in its topography and plant life. Each day we ascend through the various climatic zones; each with unique and different views and highlights. What is initially lush rainforest thins to become alpine heather permitting views of the surrounding scenery and the upper mountain, often bathed in a soft glow in the warm morning and evening light. We then enter the alpine moorland with a cornucopia of weird and exotic plants. Nowhere is this more pronounced than on your arrival into Barranco Camp, home to a large stand of Senecio Kilimanjari, a tree whose form appears to have been the brainchild of Dr Seuss. The upper mountain features varied volcanic terrain that in places has a tortured appearance, the result of heated lava explosions and resultant flows that have long since cooled. But it is the summit day that amazes most. Remnant glaciers are scattered around the summit crater looking like giant icebergs after the ebbing of the tide. Near the top of the mountain, the route takes you close to some of the summit glaciers that glisten in the morning light. Soft hues massage the sky as dawn highlights the layers in the stratosphere. It is a view to behold as you take those final steps to the summit – the goal barely tangible up to that point, yet finally achieved. The reality and significance of the moment are unique to each and every one of us and becomes a moment that is your own to hold on to forever.

The climb itself is little more than trekking on well-formed tracks and the camps are at sites established by the Tanzanian National Park Service. At each camp there are rangers in residence who usually live in small huts.

Each day, we climb for 4-8 hours between camps. Summit day begins in the early hours of the morning to reveal a magnificent sunrise and panoramic wonder from the summit. The climb to the summit is strenuous due to the altitude and is a long way, but it is appropriate for people who have a sense of adventure and want to see the warm glow of the dawn spread across the African plains!



Highly experienced local guides, porters and cooks accompany the group allowing you to enjoy the experience and focus on the climb.

No trip to Africa is complete without experiencing a safari and as Tanzania has some of the most incredible animal populations on the continent, we highly recommend that after the climb you sit back and enjoy the safari experience!

Expedition Guides and Staff

The expedition guides on our Kilimanjaro ascents are local Tanzanian guides who originate from the regions surrounding the mountain. They are very experienced guides with multiple ascents of Kilimanjaro and are specifically trained in guiding techniques, many having summited in excess of one hundred times! Each guide holds guiding certifications and wilderness medical qualifications. Our group of guides have all been personally selected due to their personal attributes, as they are both courteous and caring whilst being good leaders.

Each expedition has a cook, waiter, camp manager and a group of porters to carry the loads required for your trip. The cook is trained in 'western style' cooking and hygienic techniques to ensure your health and wellbeing during your ascent. On top of that, the food we provide is excellent! The number of porters on your trip is dependent on the size of the group. Adventure Consultants is a supporting member of the Porter Protection Society, a group that oversees the welfare of porters around the world. This ensures the porters are well clothed, fed and accommodated during the expedition. There are some operators who will exploit their porters and deny them these necessities in order to offer cheaper pricing on their trips.

Itinerary: 9-day (climb) + 4-day (safari) programme.

Machame-Barafu Route

Day 1: Arrive Kilimanjaro International Airport in Tanzania. Transfer to Arusha and stay at Rivertrees Country Inn.

Day 2: Relax, sort gear, recover from jet lag and explore Arusha. Overnight at Rivertrees Country Inn.

Day 3: Drive to the Machame Gate of the National Park. The trail begins from here, winding up through the lush tropical forests and out onto heather moorland. Overnight at Machame Camp (3,000m/9,800ft).

Day 4: Trek to Shira Plateau, walk through open moorlands. Overnight at Shira Cave Camp (3,840m/12,600ft).

Day 5: A long trek to Barranco Camp. This camp lies in a sheltered area below the spectacular cliffs of the Breach Wall. The Breach Wall, the Dome of Uhuru and the edge of the Heim Glacier dominates the head of the valley. Overnight at Barranco Camp (3,900m/12,800ft).

Day 6: Trek to Karanga Camp via the Barranco Wall. Huge glaciers and cliffs can be seen which mark this part of the mountain. Overnight at Karanga Camp (4,200m/13,800ft).

Day 7: A short day takes us to Barafu Camp (4,600m/15,100ft) which is the top camp and staging point for the summit bid later that night.

Day 8: At midnight, the climb begins up the steep scree slopes to reach Stella Point. From here, we walk steadily up the ridge and around the crater to reach Uhuru Peak at 5,895m/19,340ft. From the summit, we descend to overnight at Millennium Camp (3,800m/12,500ft).

Day 9: Covering the last section of the mountain, the trek continues down through the forests to the gate. Here we must leave behind our friendly local staff who have worked so hard to make our trip enjoyable and successful. Together, they sing local songs describing the folk lore around their mystical mountain and spiritual homeland. Reluctantly, we say our goodbyes and board our vehicles which transport us to the airport for departure.

For those catching an evening flight, it is the end of the journey. However, for those staying on for a well-earned safari, your vehicle will take you to Rivertrees Country Inn where a shower and a real bed await!

Note: If you are not departing until the following day and are not continuing on the safari, we can book you an extra night at the hotel and arrange an airport transfer to suit. If you have limited time, but are interested in seeing some of the wildlife, a half day safari in nearby Tarangire or Arusha National Parks is highly recommended.

4-day Safari Itinerary

Day 10: Fly from Arusha to Serengeti Seronera Airport, arriving by late morning. Enjoy a picnic lunch upon arrival, then an afternoon game-drive in the Serengeti National Park. The Serengeti is the largest of all the national parks in Tanzania, famous for both its migratory and resident animal population. Stay overnight at a deluxe tented camp.

Day 11: Full day exploring the Serengeti National Park. Stay overnight at deluxe tented camp and discuss an optional night game drive with your guide.

Day 12: Drive to the Ngorongoro Crater with a game drive enroute - visit Olduvai Museum (archaeological site "cradle of mankind"). Head off for an afternoon game-drive in the Ngorongoro Crater, with a maximum 6 hours allowed on the crater floor. This 100 square mile natural amphitheatre is host to an astonishing array of wildlife and you may see everything from elephant and lion to (if you're lucky) the near-extinct black rhino, all amongst large herds of zebra and wildebeest. Stay overnight at the Ngorongoro Farmhouse.



Day 13: A relaxing morning to enjoy breakfast overlooking the beautiful gardens of the Ngorongoro Farmhouse, perhaps have a massage or tour the coffee plantation before returning to Arusha in the afternoon and transferring to Kilimanjaro Airport for an afternoon or evening departure flight. If departing the following day, we can book you an extra night at the hotel and an airport transfer to suit.

Expedition Fee

The cost of the Kilimanjaro Expedition and Safari is **US\$6,990** per person ex Arusha, Tanzania.
Climb only **US\$4,740** per person ex Arusha, Tanzania.

**Prices subject to change*

The expedition fee includes:

- Adventure Consultants Tanzanian qualified mountain guide and local staff
- All expedition organisational requirements
- Comprehensive reference notes - information package to aid trip planning and equipment
- Hotel in Arusha within expedition dates, based on shared rooms (single room supplement available for extra fee) including dinner and breakfast (day 1, 2 on climb and day 9, if on safari)
- All lodging and food while on the trek/climb (also on optional safari)
- Group climbing equipment, all meals and snacks, tents and fuel in Kilimanjaro region
- Transport to and from the National Park
- Porters, drivers, park fees and climbing permits

The expedition fee does not include:

- Personal clothing and equipment
- Entry Visa for Tanzanian and/or Kenya
- Airport transfers – typically US\$95-\$120 for a Landcruiser vehicle which can be shared between team members arriving/departing at similar times
- Lunches in Arusha
- Travel insurance including trip cancellation and medical evacuation or any rescue costs
- Any costs associated with early departure from the expedition
- International round trip travel costs into and out of Tanzania and/or Kenya
- Extra hotel nights if departing day after trip finishes rather than evening of same day (i.e. evening of day 9 on climb or evening of day 13, if doing safari)
- Spending on personal items such as gifts etc
- International travel vaccinations
- Excess baggage charges and airport taxes
- Bottled beverages
- Tips and gratuity (members to contribute \$250 to \$550 each to tip pool for local staff, we will advise you of amounts depending on final group size)

We also offer **Private Kilimanjaro Expeditions** with dates to suit you. These are suitable for individuals or groups, including a safari or as a stand-alone climb. The price including a safari is US\$6,990 each, which applies to groups of four people. Contact us for further information and pricing on other options.

We are specialists in providing **Luxury Trek options** on Kilimanjaro and safaris. Our Luxury Trek option is led by experienced Western guides who have considerable high-altitude experience. Our services include a variety of options for 5-star lodging in Arusha and on safari. You can elect to include large 'stand up' sleeping tents on the mountain with comfortable camp beds, heated dining tent, bottled mineral water, showers and additional guide staff for your group. While this may be too much for

seasoned mountaineers, we have found that those who are new to the mountains enjoy the additional creature comforts.

Deposit

A **non-refundable deposit of US\$500** is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

An additional **non-refundable deposit of US\$500** is payable to secure a place if joining the safari.

Balance

The balance is payable 90 days prior to the expedition start date.

Payments

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

**Bank of New Zealand
Offshore Branch
1 Willis Street
Wellington
New Zealand**

for the account of **Adventure Consultants Limited**

Account # **1000-594771-0000**
Account Type: **US Dollars**
Swift Address: **BKNZNZ22**

Note: All bank transfer charges are for the **remitter's account**.

We can also accept your deposit and your balance payment by credit card (Visa, Mastercard or Amex), plus a 3% credit card fee.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Once you have paid your deposit, your trip is confirmed, subject to payment of the balance of fees owing 90 days prior to your trip commencement date. An expedition trek member may then cancel his/her participation on the following basis:

- Cancellations outside of 90 days will result in the loss of the trip deposit.

- For cancellations made within 89 - 60 days of the trip commencement date we reserve the right to retain 50% of the balance payment.
- For cancellations within 59 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.

Team members should take out private insurance if they wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical, personal or other reasons. This is called Trip Cancellation Insurance and can be obtained from your normal travel agent.

Visas

All visitors from non-Commonwealth countries are required to obtain a valid visa unless their country has an agreement with Tanzania under which the visa requirement is waived. Check for updates before travelling. Visas can be obtained on arrival for most nationalities for a fee of US\$100 for American citizens and US\$50 for other nationalities.

Team Membership

The team will have a minimum size of 4 members and 1 qualified Tanzanian guide with local assistant guides and a maximum size of 12 members.

Note: If there are just two or three of you please enquire for pricing. We can arrange departures on dates to suit groups of all sizes.

Food

The food on our Kilimanjaro climbs is exceptionally good. We place emphasis on providing nutritious meals and a good supply of snack food throughout the trip. Please inform us if you have any special dietary requirements.

Equipment List

Adventure Consultants will supply all group gear (e.g. tents, tables and chairs, stoves and utensils, etc.) whilst expedition members are to provide their own personal clothing, day pack, duffel bag, footwear and sleeping bag. An equipment list will be provided to expedition members upon confirmation of your participation.

Safety Communications and Insurance

To safeguard members of the expedition, we will be carrying mobile phones, handheld VHF radios and a satellite telephone. We require expedition members to carry additional insurance for evacuation and repatriation, as well as normal travel medical expenses. Contact us for expedition insurance advice.

Medical Questionnaire

Expedition members will be provided with pre-trip medical advice and a medical questionnaire and asked to visit their family physician and receive a full medical examination. This information will be sighted only by the expedition leader and our medical adviser and treated with full confidentiality.

Documentation and Photographs

Expedition trek members will need to provide a copy of their passport biodata page. Passport photos are not required.

How to Join This Expedition

If you would like to join our Kilimanjaro Expedition, please complete our online application form on the web at <https://www.adventureconsultants.com/expeditions/seven-summits/kilimanjaro/book-now> and submit your trip deposit. Please also contact us if you'd like any further information or assistance in planning your trip:

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Adventure Consultants – is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and is a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants is a supporter of the dZi Foundation in Nepal for their 'Revitalise a Village' programs and of the Kilimanjaro Porters Assistance Project. Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.